प्रधान मंत्री को इटली की यात्रा हेतु निमंत्रण

1532. **श्री प्रमोद महाजन:**
श्री गोविन्दराव आदिक:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इटली की सरकार ने भारत के प्रधान मंत्री को निमंत्रित किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) प्रधान मंत्री इटली का दौरा कब करने जा रहे हैं; और

(घ) इस यात्रा के दौरान कौन-कौन से विषयों पर चर्चा होगी?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद): (क) से (घ) अक्तूबर, 1992 में इटली के पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री श्री गुलिअनो अमाती ने प्रधान मंत्री को इटली की यात्रा पर आने का निमंत्रण दिया था और इस निमंत्रण को सिद्धान्त रूप से स्वीकार कर लिया गया है। इस यात्रा की परस्पर सुविधाजनक तारीखें तय होने पर वे यात्रा पर जाएंगे और इससे विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में भारत-इटली संबंध अग्रसर होंगे।

Smuggling of A.K. type rifles

1533. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated total number of AK type rifles smuggled into the country since 1991-92, year-wise;

(b) the main points of entry of such smuggled weapons; and

(c) the number of AK-type rifles looted from army and para-military camps by various insurgent groups since 1991-92, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Soft loans for shipping industry

1534. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian shipping industry has sought soft loans for shipping; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the schemes in which such loans are proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian National Shipowners' Association have submitted a memorandum to Reserve Bank of India regarding soft loans as mentioned below:—

(i) Working capital needs of the shipping industry.

(ii) Concessional finance for shipping industry's working capital needs.

(iii) Medium term loan finance for shipping companies under self-liquidating Finance Scheme.

(iv) Setting aside a part of country's forex reserves for boosting of national shipping tonnage.

Repatriation of Sri Lankan Tamils to Sri Lanka

1535. SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Sri Lankan Tamils who have so far been repatriated from India to Sri Lanka from the South India; and

(b) what was the expenditure incurred by Government to repatriate these refugees from India to Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) A total of 54,187 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees have been repatriated from India to Sri Lanka between 20th January, 1992 (when repatriation commenced) and 20th March, 1995.

(b) As per figures furnished by Ministry of Home Affairs, a sum of Rs. 2.07 crore was spent by them on repatriation of 14,409 refugees to Sri Lanka to date. Expenditure on repatriation of the remaining 39,778 refugees to Sri Lanka was incurred by the Government of Andamans & Nicobar. This information is being collected and will be placed before the House.